June 1976

The MESSENGER

THE
UNITED
REFORMED
CHURCH

ST. STEPHEN'S & Milnrow Littleborough

Price: 4p

ST, STEPHEN'S DIARY

June

Tues. 1st.	7.30 pm. Ladies Guild
Weds. 2nd	2 pm. Young Mums (& each Weds)
	7.30 pm Whist Drive " " "
Fri. 4th	7.30 pm Sale of Casual Clothes (Organised by Ladies Guild)
Sun. 6th	CHURCH ANNIVERSARY 9 am Holy Communion 11 am & 6 pm Special Services
Mon. 7th	Pilots - Swimming -
Tues. 8th	7.30 pm - Ladies Guild Committee
Weds. 9th	7.30 pm - Elders' Meeting in the Manse
" "	District Ladies Summer Rally at Broughton Park
Sun. 13th	11 am. Mrs.M.Nash 6 pm - "Songs of Praise"
Mon. 14th	Pilots - Swimming
Sun. 20th	11 am. - Mr. C. Hilton of Manchester No Evening Service
Sun. 27th	11 am. - Al and Angela Turner No Evening Service

JULY

Sun. 4th	11 am & 6 pm - The Minister
Mon. 5th	Pilots - Swimming
" "	8 pm - Efforts Committee -Pennine Room
Tues. 6th	7.30 pm - Ladies Guild
Weds. 7th	2 pm - Young Mums (& each Weds.)
	7.30 pm - Whist Drive " " "
Sun. 11th	11 am - Mrs.M. Nash 6 pm - Lay Preacher
Mon. 12th	Pilots - "Over 10's" - 7-9 pm
Weds. 14th	7.30 pm - Elders Meeting in The Manse
Sun. 18th	11 am & 6 pm - The Minister Sunday Evening Special followed by Fellowship Hour.
Mon. 19th	Pilots - Swimming
" 24th	Garden Party at 14, Heaton Street
Sun. 25th	11 am. - Lay Preacher 6 pm. - The Minister
Mon. 26th	Pilots - Swimming
Weds. 28th	7-30 pm - Church Meeting

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

June

Sun.6th 10.30 am. Mr.J. Lord. (United Service-Offering for Christian Aid.)
Weds.9th District Ladies Summer Rally
" " 6.45 pm. Pilots
Sun.13th 10.30 am. Rev.A. Nash. - Young People's Service (Reception of CWM Boxes)
6.00 pm. Rev.A. Nash
Holy Communion
Tues.15th 7.30 pm. Ladies Guild invite the Men
Weds.16th 6.45 pm. Pilots
Sun 20th and 27th Church Closed.

July

Sun. 4th 10.30 am. Mr.J. Lord
Weds.7th 7.45 pm. Pilots
Sun.11th 10.30am and 6 pm Rev.A. Nash
Evening Communion
Tues.13th 8.00 pm. Meeting of Busy Bees/Younger Guilders at 52 Petts Crescent
Sun. 18th 10.30 am. Mrs.M. Nash
Tues.20th 7.30 pm. Ladies Guild
Sun. 25th 10.30 am. Rev.A. Nash - Family Communion.
Tues.27th 7.30 pm. Coffee Evening at 2,Centre Vale.
Weds.28th 6.45 pm. Pilots

August

Sun. 1st 10.30 am. Mr.J. Lord
Tues.3rd 7.30 pm. We join with the Ladies Guild at St. Stephen's,Milnrow.

Organist/Pianist

June 6th	a.m.	Mrs.M. Hill
" 13th	a.m.	Miss L. Merrick
	p.m.	Mrs.M. Hill
July 4th	a.m.	Mrs.M.Hill
" 11th	a.m.	Miss L. Merrick
	p.m.	Mrs.M. Hill
" 18th	a.m.	Mrs.E. Cockcroft
" 25th	a.m.	Miss L. Merrick

From The Manse

June, 1976

My dear friends,

This is the time of the year when holidays are much in our minds. It is good to spend time in different surroundings and to change the usual pattern of life for something a little more free.

Some years ago we were able to spend a week in North Devon and enjoyed it tremendously. The scenery, especially along the coast, is most impressive in its wild beauty. We found pleasure also in looking around the multitude of delightful country churches. Some had beautifully carved woodwork; others possessed glorious stained glass windows. All were full of things of historical interest. In almost every one of these churches a printed card invited the visitor to spend a few moments in prayer.

The greatest source of recreation and refreshing is sometimes the most neglected. It is refreshment of the spirit. It frequently means that we make an effort along rather different lines, but the result can be truly exhilarating.

Prayer is a most wonderful privilege as the way of direct contact with God for every one of us. Some people say they find it very difficult to know what to say to God. Strangely enough we often rise up refreshed after having simply lifted up our thoughts to Him in silence. It is also worthwhile to remember that God does not go on holiday and that He always has time to share with us if we have time to share with Him.

May your holiday be a time of real refreshment and blessing.

Your sincere friend,

ALFRED NASH.

Thought for the month:

"In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding shall guard your hearts and your thought in Christ Jesus".

Phil. 4: 6-7.

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Obituary.

MRS. EDNA SMALES, aged 74 years.

The funeral service at Rochdale Crematorium on Thursday, May 20th was conducted by Rev. A. Nash.

May we offer our sympathy to Mr. Smales, Mrs. N. Settle, relatives and friends in their loss.

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ANNIVERSARY AT ST. STEPHEN'S

By a happy coincidence this year's Anniversary on June 6th falls on Whit Sunday and thus in our services we shall emphasise the coming of the Holy Spirit.

9 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION

11 a.m. "The Holy Spirit in Creation"
"Empowered Men"
- telling the story of Pentecost.

6 p.m. "The witness of Stephen"
- a demonstration of the first Christian Martyr.

As this latter service makes our Anniversary a sort of St. Stephen's Day (conveniently overlooking 26th December), we are endeavouring to trace some of the history of the Church by means of an Exhibition of photographs and other items which can be put on display in the schoolroom for friends to look at and reminisce over after Evening Service when a cup of tea will be served.

HOT GOSPEL

Elijah brought fire from heaven the other Sunday morning to St. Stephen's, and if you want to know how it was done, it's a secret known only to the Junior Department. The item "Decision at Mt. Carmel" was a very lively realistic dramatisation of the challenge put to Israel to worship the true God or the Phoenician idol, Baal. Well done, Juniors!

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MAY DAY MASQUERADE.

This proved to be an extremely colourful occasion and it was good to see many Mums and their children plus older friends all joining in the fun. The Fancy Dress Parade produced some really excellent costumes - thanks to the Mums.

Our thanks also to Mrs. H. Greenwood (Madame Zenda), Al and Angela Turner, the ladies responsible for the artistic decorations, the servers of refreshments for giving us all such a happy time.

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ST. STEPHEN'S Family Readings

June	13th	The holiness of God - Isaiah 6: 1-8
"	20th	Triumphant Praise - Psalm 150
"	27th	The servant lord - John 13:3-5:12-17
July	4th	Obedient to the Law - Psalm 119: 33-40
"	11th	The blood of the martyrs -Acts 8: 1-8
"	18th	God, here and everywhere -Psalm 95:1-7
"	25th	The year of the Lord's favour-Luke4:14-20

Littleborough's Family Readings.

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June	6th	United Service	
"	13th	Acts 16: 6-10	
July	4th	Acts 17: 22-34	- Mrs.K. Hill
"	11th	Jeremiah 26:1-15	- Mrs.H. Vincent
"	18th	Romans 8:31-39	- Mark Grindrod
"	25th	Mark 8: 34-37	- Mr.R. Mullen
Aug.	1st	Isaiah 6: 1-8	- Mrs.P. Lightfoot

YOUNG MUMS.

Programmes for June and July as follows:-
June 2nd - Afternoon opened by the members.
"This happened to me"(brought over from last month)
" 9th - A Quiz afternoon. Opened by Mrs.C. Hey
" 16th - A party before Rochdale holidays
Closed for June 23rd and 30th --
July 7th - Our Minister will speak of a "typical week in his life"
" 14th - "How we met..."
Afternoon opened by Mrs.G.Wright
" 21st - A time with Al Turner
" 28th - General Chat afternoon
Aug.4th - Outing to Burnley

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One of our members, Mrs. Lynn Clegg, has now moved to Norwich. We shall think of you often, Lynn, and wish you, your husband and young Lynsy, much happiness in your new home. Don't forget to pop in and see us when you come this way.

What a crush there was at the Sale and Bring & Buy organised by the Young Mums recently. It was easy to see that business was brisk and everyone worked very hard to produce the grand sum of £46.15 for Church Funds. Thank you to all, for an excellent effort.

A reminder ..... we are always pleased to see any Young Mum on Wednesday afternoons from 2 o'clock.

Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in.
Aim at earth and you get neither.

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UNCONVICTED CRIMINALS IN OUR MIDST

We understand that our last month's headline about Policeman's wife being followed by Man on Probation provoked a passing comment from Roy Vincent to the effect that in various ways we are all transgressors of the law. This month's heading acknowledges this fact. Roy's talk on the Probation Service was greatly enjoyed and contained much food for thought and we hope that he will be able to come and speak to us again sometime.

We also enjoyed a "Getting to know You" talk from Mrs. Brenda Sharples at that meeting and we look forward to similar interest in June when Miss Ivy Tither says her piece.

As the Editor bashes away on his typewriter the ladies of the Guild are tucking into "Joe the Fat Boys Treat" and "Sam Weller's Delight" at Smithhills Coaching House. Hope you enjoyed it, girls!

RALLY ROUND.

Guild members are reminded of the District Summer Rally at Broughton Park on June 9th. We look forward to seeing some friends from last year at that gathering.

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The Language of Beauty.

Roses preach sermons.
Their praises ascend -
but only the pure and
the meek comprehend
the language they speak,
So to them they disclose -
the secrets concealed
in the heart of a rose.

Patience Strong.

NEVER TOO OLD

It has been said by one of great age -- "I'm old, and no good to anyone". Here is a poem written by Fay Inchfawn, of Freshford, Bath, who at the age of 95 must be one of our oldest living poets. In younger days she was a friend of Flora Klickman, well-known Editor of a paper called "Girl's Own Paper", and on one occasion she met and talked with Thomas Hardy. She has written 38 books, mostly poetry and children's books, and her verses and reminscences were widely read between the wars.

An unpredicted love affair

Mercy was always a little too kindly.
Truth, her opinions would flout.
Mercy would trust people-rather too blindly-
Truth must search everything out.
When the astonishing rumour came through,
That Mercy and Truth were in love -
Everyone thought that it couldn't be true -
Since Everyone said,
And Everyone knew,
No Eagle would mate with a Dove.
But when the Two had been seen together,
In drizzling rain and bright sunny weather,
No one was greatly surprised to know,
And no one at all said - never.
When tidings passed
From one to another
That Mercy and Truth
Had taken each other
For better -
For worse -
And forever.

A JOYOUS OCCASION.

The sun shone brightly and we had a lovely day on t occasion of the Junior Church Anniversary Services at Littleborough. These were conducted by our former Minister, Rev. Glyn Jenkins, BA. BD. at 10.30 a.m. and 6 p.m. It is nearly four years since Mr. Jenkins went to Dursley but it was difficult to realise that the children taking part in the pageant included those he had baptised during his ministry here. No wonder he thought they'd grown! After hectic preparations, the pageant, "From Manger to Cross" passed off smoothly and everyone enjoyed it.

Over 40 Primary, Junior and Senior children took part. With recorders, Jane and Andrew assisted Mr. Clegg with the playing of "Go tell it on the mountain", and the unseen donkey which "trotted through Jerusalem", was led by Mrs. Vincent. At the evening service the choir sang an Introit and "Brother James' Air" in which Mrs. Lightfoot and Mrs. Law sang the descant. The Junior and Senior scholars sang "Candlelight". Offerings for the day amounted to £81.10.

Thanks are due to many people for the success of the day, including Mr. A. Clegg our organist, the friends who augmented the choir, the ladies who decorated our Church so beautifullywith spring flowers, the children, the congregation, and Rev. Jenkins for his message and prayers. Altogether it was a splendid day.

DON'T LOSE THIS MESSAGE

When you read this magazine, presumably at the beginning of June, take note that it is not many weeks till the

COFFEE EVENING
organised by the
MENFOLK
at CENTRE VALE -- time 7-30p.m.
On Tuesday July 27th -- Admission 10p
Bring and Buy.
Proceeds for Autumn Fair.

YOU CAN'T WIN 'EM ALL

The Pilots have been busy again. A week after returning from Camp, a team of four "Quizzers" and 6 "Gamers" met similar teams from Red Lane, Bolton and Winsford, Cheshire. We did not win this time but we did enjoy the battle, nevertheless. We extend our thanks to all contestants, drivers and supporters.

On May 9th at our half-yearly Enrolment and Promotion Service, six new Pilots were enrolled and six others promoted. We were also very pleased that B ob Mullen was commissioned as an Officer, and wish him joy within the Company.

Saturday May 15th was a Training Day for Pilot Officers and Junior Officers at Deane URC, Bolton, and a beginning was made by those present on preparations for the Voyage for 1978-9 which is the responsibility of Pilot Companies in the North West.

PROVOKE A RIOT

Have you viewed the Church garden recently? A load of soil has been delivered and seven stalwarts are recovering from lumbago.

Many plants have been planted but we should still be grateful of more. So all you gardeners who have a few bedding out plants left over just pop round to the back and plant your own.

Already rumour has it that a pansy has a bud. We look forward to a riot of colour shortly. Watch that space!

"FELLOWSHIP HOUR".

We extend to you all a special invitation to join us in "Fellowship Hour" after Evening worship on Sunday, June 13th - also on July 11th. Come along and bring your friends.

ANYTHING YOU CAN DO ..

2 men and 22 ladies competed in the Victoria Sandwich Competition held at a coffee evening in the schoolroom on May 4th. The winner was Mrs. Rita Lord who is to be heartily congratulated, but she was almost outshone by 21 year old Stephen Moss making a bid for male equality by producing a culinary delight which brought him a "highly commended" in his first attempt at cake making. Furthermore, ladies, he did not use one of them there fancy cake mixes or even an electric mixer. Anyone who wants baking doing is advised to approach Stephen directly at his abode in Todmorden Road, but don't be fobbed off by Mrs. Moss who made a cake but was not among the prize-winners.

The event was organised by The Busy Bees and Younger Guilders who raised over £19 on the evening, partly on the competition but partly on a sale of plants and seedlings, also by a raffle which was won by Mrs. Stott who happened to have a birthday on that day.

BEYOND THESE WALLS.

Audrey Walls sends her greetings. She says, "Please give my regards to Guild and people at the Church, and thanks for having me as a Church Member. I was always happy at Littleborough and will be glad to see you all any time you are in Scarborough". Thanks, Audrey.

INTRODUCING ACROSTICS at The Ladies Guild.

At our May Meeting, which happened to be in
Christian Aid Week, Our President intriguingly
Revealed to us something called an ACROSTIC.
Our members found this to be most fascinating
So several of our number agreed to display
Talents on shakers, bells, tambourines and other
Instruments which, to say the least proved less
Confusing, as it is rumoured that some of us
Still don't know what an Acrostic is.

LETS GET TOGETHER

On 15th June there will be a combined evening for the Ladies' Guild and Men's Fellowship, so come along for a guaranteed laugh. If you cannot make it on that night the Guild will meet on 20th July - hope to see you!

WELCOME.

We are happy to receive Mrs. Margaret Rimmer into the membership of our Littleborough Church.

Welcome into the fold, Mrs. Rimmer.

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME

The house to house collection in aid of the N.C.H. brought in £336 from the various churches in Littleborough. We managed to raise £45 of this and our thanks are extended to Mrs. K. Hill and her helpers. Don't forget to offer to help next year, folks!

A smile costs nothing,
But gives much!
The best way to know God is
to love all things!
We must always have old
memories and young hopes!

Good, better, best: never let it
rest till your good is better,
and your better best!
A candle loses nothing of its
light by lighting another candle!
Lending a helping hand is the secret
to happiness!
Love weighs more than gold!
The best way to train up a child in the way he should go is to travel that way yourself.
What God chooses is better than what I might choose.

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

DOOR STEWARDS

June	6th	Mr.H.N.Hill	Mr.R. Mullen
"	13th	a.m. Young People	
		p.m. Mr. Beattie	
July	4th	Mr.J. Nairn	Mr.J. Hill
"	11th	a.m. Mrs. Crossley	Mr.J. Lord
		p.m. Mr. Holt	
"	18th	Mr.J. Holt	Mrs.A. Stott
"	25th	Mr. F. Beattie	Mr.R. Mullen
Aug.	1st	Mr. H.N. Hill	Mr.J. Hill

COMMUNION - ELDERS

June	13th	p.m.	Mr.F. Beattie	Mr.F. Simpson
July	11th	p.m.	Mr.J. Nairn	Mr.J. Lord
"	25th	a.m.	Mr.F. Beattie	Mr.F. Simpson

FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

June 6th	Mrs. Law
" 13th	Mrs. Stott
July 4th	Mrs. J.A. Leach
" 11th	Mrs. Fielden
" 18th	Mrs. Stott
" 25th	Mrs. Marvelley
Aug. 1st	Mrs.D. Leach

COFFEE ROTA

June 6th	Mrs.P. Mullen	Mrs.K. Hill
" 13th	Mrs. L. Butterworth	Mrs.S. Moss
July 4th	Mrs. B. Allison	Miss J. Allison
" 11th	Mrs. A. Merrick	Miss B. Merrick
" 18th	Mrs. J. Law	Miss W. Law
" 25th	Mrs.J. Hobbs	Mrs. W. Spinks
Aug. 1st	Mrs.L. Stanton	Mrs.J. Hey

If unable to fulfil your duty would you please find a substitute.

Please Note - For Family Scripture Readings please see Page 6.

CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

FAMILY CHURCH DOOR STEWARDS

June	6th	Mr.G. Buckley	Mr.A. Rae
July	13th	Mrs.F.Butterworth Mrs.J. Duffy	Mr.H.Mellor Mrs.A.Baines
	[illegible]th	Mrs.B.Clarence	Mrs.P.Royle
	18th	Mrs.M.Holden	Kenneth Holden
	25th	Mr.J.Harrison	Mr.I.Royle
Aug.	1st	Mr.J.Collins	Stephen Collins

ELDERS ROTA EVENING DOOR STEWARDS	DUTY ELDER	ORGANIST/PIANIST EVENING WORSHIP
June 6th Mr.J.Wild	Mr.D.Munday	Mr.A.Clegg
" 13th Mrs.M.Howarth	Mr.A.Sharples	Mrs.E.Starkie
Jul. 4th Mr.B.Clough	Mrs.Howarth	Mr.D.Logan
" 11th Mr.A.Sharples	Mr.B.Clough	Mrs.Bradbury
" 18th Mr.D.Munday	Mr.Whitehead	Mrs.C.Hey
" 25th Mr.A. Busill	Mr.J.Wild	Mrs.E.Starkie
Aug. 1st Mr.H.Whitehead	Mr.A.Busill	Mr.D. Logan

COMMUNION ROTA

June	6th	Mr.H.Whitehead Mr.A. Busill
July	4th	Mr.J.Wild Mr.B.Clough
Aug.	1st	Mr.A.Sharples Mr.D.Munday

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

June	6th	Mrs.J.Duffy Mrs.F. Butterworth
	13th	Mrs.J.Cudworth Mrs.N.S ttle
Jul.	4th	Mrs.C.Hey Mrs.M.Mellor
	11th	Miss M.Wood Mrs.D.Andrew
	18th	Mrs.J.Calow Mrs.E. Garside
	25th	Mrs.J.Munday Mrs.M.Ogden
Aug.	1st	Mrs.E,Smith Mrs.H. Buckley

Persons unable to fulfil their duties are asked to find a substitute please.

FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

June 6th Mrs.E.Beattie; Mrs.D.Law;Mrs.C.Wilkinson
13th Mrs.B.Metcalfe; Mrs.B. Clarence
20th Mrs.A. Wood
27th Mrs.M.Nash
Jul. 4th Mrs.N.Roberts
11th Mrs.E.Wood; Mrs.A.Tither
18th Mrs.C.Armstrong: Mrs.P.Chadwick
25th Mrs.M.Millington: Mrs.K.Reed

MINISTER:

Rev A V J NASH BA
The Manse
196 Harbour Lane
Milnrow

Tel: ROCHDALE 50161

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CHURCH SECRETARIES

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